

CHAPTER FIVE

BACK TO CRAVEN ROOTS The fourth 25 years (1968 to 1992)

1968 - Winning keeper Debut Dennis Bottomley

Oakworth commenced the last quarter of their first century with Wilf Scarborough back to form with a bang as he rattled up three half centuries to tally 385 runs for an impressive average of 32 in 1968. Graham Nolan and Barry Sayer also topped the 250 mark and Richard Harris continued to strike with increasing regularity. Another 59 superb wickets went his way and he received backing from Haworth lad Dennis Bottomley and all rounder David Greenwood. Another bowler to enjoy his year was West End's Colin Garthwaite who overcame 14 Oaks batsmen (6 for 19 & 8 for 34). The club gained another league prize winner as Wilf shared the wicket-keeping prize with 25 dismissals.

1 st	WBL1	D Greenwood	18	8	1	6	5	7 th of 10
2 nd	WBL3	A Spink	20	8	0	3	9	

1969 - Seconds Cup loss Debut Phil Taylor



David Greenwood

The first five league matches of 1969 were all decimated by incessant rain including a game in which Oakworth bowlers Richard Harris and Jeff Hobson with a hat-trick skittled Slingsby's for only 17 runs. Oakworth never made the crease. In a six match unbeaten spell at the end of the year Oakworth posted a new record high team score of 248 for 8 (B Sayer 68) against Haworth Baptists to a first win for 21 years and by a massive 153 runs to further underline their consolidation in the premier division. The previous record had stood since 1940. In August David Greenwood picked up 4 for 15 and together with his 74 runs the Oxenhope opposition were roundly defeated. Barber extraordinaire Greenwood shaved Wilf Scarborough for the club's batting prize and pace-men Hobson (4th) and Harris (6th) finished

in the top ten.

Even more encouraging the Second XI reached their Cup Final, going one step further than in 1966. They faced the Seconds from Ingrow. G Lloyd reached 88 out of Ingrow's suspended 150 for 4 as none of the Oakworth IIs bowlers made any impression at all. Steve Pickles took 3 wickets but at a cost of 55 runs.

Despite inclusion of Cyril Pegg, Frank Woodward and David Lockley who all had first XI experience, the bowling of N Cuthbert proved too difficult to overcome and he took 4 for 19. T Halstead ably backed him up (2 for 23) and Lloyd took 2 for 25. The Oakworth total of 85 fell well short of the target and only Cyril with 24 and Eddie Smith with 18 made any significant impact.

1 st	WBL1	W Scarborough	18	6	0	8	4	4 th of 10
2 nd	WBL3	E Smith	18	6	0	5	7	

1970 - Almost a double



Jeff Hobson

It seems the lessons of 1965 when the club were runners up in the Cup and then relegated, had sunk home because the First XI again reached the Charity Cup Final and then went on to have their best West Bradford League season ever. Our opponents on 18th July 1970 were Oxenhope who batted first and reached their suspension score of 150 with only six wickets down. Harris, Hobson and Bottomley couldn't shift Ken Hopkinson who finished not out on 71 and G Cowgill chipped in with a useful 45. Captain for his second season Wilf Scarborough put in a fighting 53 and Brian Wilson added another 32 in leading a valiant attempt to win the Cup in their second Final. A late burst by Hobson (10) and Harris (21) could however only drag the total to 156. The Oxenhoppers had no difficulty in returning to knock off the seven runs required for victory. So Oakworth's second Cup Final, like their first, ended with the runners up medal. The third round had seen Oakworth's Jeff Hobson single-handedly blitz Slingsbys from the tournament. His 8 for 12 left them all out 18 and Oaks with a ten-wicket win. In the semi-final Wilf had blasted the Morton Banks bowlers for what Barry Sayer suggests was his best ever innings, a whirlwind 118 not out, which was sorely needed as Banks'

Stevie Johnson had set up partnerships of 42, 50 and 54 for their last 3 wickets. They had recovered from Harris' early onslaught, which left them at 20-7. Wilf's league form was less impressive.

On June 13th Dennis Bottomley had probably his finest match for Oaks, seeing off the Meths at Home with 8 for 32 and 38 lustily hit runs.

For the first time in 78 years the team passed 1,000 runs at Wide Lane (1,068) in its 10 home matches. Graham Nolan led the strong batting line-up with 405 runs for the season but he finished behind Barry Sayer in the averages. Barry's best season to date brought him 322 runs, average 26. Richard Harris could do little wrong with the ball, taking 62 league wickets. He and Bottomley (42) both made the League's top ten. Further fine efforts from Pegg, Greenwood and the frighteningly quick if erratic Hobson propelled Oakworth onwards to League runners up behind Champions Bradford Telecom, whom Oakworth had thrashed by 9 wickets in May! All in all a brilliant season, league runners up and beaten Cup Finalists, but one still without a winners trophy.

1 st	WBL1	W Scarborough	20	11	0	5	4	2 nd of 11
2 nd	WBL3	A Spink	20	7	0	2	11	

1971 - Eight ducks

The 1971 season opened with the shock news of Graham Nolan's defection to Morton Banks after only 1 match and the magnitude of that loss was soon underlined as he chalked up his first ever ton for that club in only his third match. Oakworth by contrast started badly with four defeats on the trot and they never really recovered. The loss of Nolan clearly contributed but Scarborough and Sayer both topped 300 runs and so the turn round in form could at least in part be laid at the door of the bowlers. Harris' high standards slipped a little and Hobson, Bottomley and Greenwood only achieved in patches. Bottomley day was surely 4th September when his 41 and 5 for 54 couldn't quite overcome Eldwick & Gilstead.

The Second XI fared little better and their season was summed up with a team total of only 7 against Oxenhope. Eight ducks showed the potency of bowlers Smith (6 for 2) and Butterfield (3 for 2). The exception was Geoff Pickles match double of 55 runs and 5 for 19, v Ingrow St Johns. It was the second such feat, the first being Lister Brown's club record in 1919.

During the winter the Oakworth committee under the chairmanship of Edwin Greenwood decided to grant Life Membership to Billy Field, Tom Hewitt, Jack Scarborough and perhaps somewhat belatedly to Prince Stobbs on reaching their 65th birthdays.

1 st	WBL1	B Sayer	20	6	0	4	10	Relegated
2 nd	WBL3	A Smith	20	5	0	3	12	Relegated

Farewells Graham Nolan, Arthur Spink, Smith Butterfield

1972 - Play-off defeat *Debut Jeff Inman, Mark Rowbotham, Colin Greenwood, A Brookes*

Another wet April and May ruined the start with 5 matches lost to the weather. David Greenwood succeeded Barry Sayer and led a team with 7 new faces. 25 years and two days after Harry Adams scored the first Oakworth century at Wide Lane, Wilf Scarborough claimed the second, scoring his third ton in his inimitable style, claiming 8 sixes and 10 fours off the dispirited Long Lee bowlers in a 117 run victory. There was a play off with Walter Slingsbys but the lads lost by 23 runs. This time there was to be no back-door promotion and trip up the snakes and ladders board. Scarborough, Sayer, Harris and Hobson all made the averages in a season which whilst much better than 1971 again left us in Division Two with no silverware. Another 15-year-old promising cricketer destined for great deeds in the Oakworth cause, made his debut in 1972. He was Jeff Inman, son of Oaks long-time scourge Meths' Jack Inman.

1 st	WBL2	D Greenwood	20	10	0	5	5	3 rd of 11
2 nd	WBL4	A Smith	20	5	0	7	8	

1973 - Unbelievable Mark

On 18th May 1973 the West Bradford League committee called a special meeting to address the many rumblings of discontent that abounded, in particular the possibility of overs cricket and the frequent loss of clubs to other leagues. Oakworth began well and finished well but a mid season dearth of wins including a

ten wicket drubbing by Cross Roads. Only Barry Sayer, with a magnificent 431 runs showed any consistency with the bat and even Richard Harris' name disappeared from the league bowling lists.

It was a very ordinary season indeed although junior Mark Rowbotham would probably have disagreed as 1973 saw him skittle Long Lee juniors with an unbelievable 8 for 12.

1 st	WBL2	D Bottomley	20	7	0	5	8	5 th of 10
2 nd	WBL4	R Atkinson	19	9	0	3	7	

Farewell Frank Woodward

1974 - Promotion

On 25th March 1974 before the season's start the club mourned the passing of one of its greatest contributors; Prince Stobbs. He had first played for Oakworth in 1919 and was club captain in 1924. A life member since 1971 he had also been the club's delegate to the West Bradford League, for whom he was a vice-president. At the time of his death he was still joint holder of the club record of most (69) wickets in a season (1924).

In 1974 Oakworth returned to prominence with a bang but strangely the club's highest score of the summer was only 152 against Oxenhope but the wins kept coming. In August Morton were dismissed for only 13, the lowest ever made by a WBL opponent. The net result was a return to the top flight in second place, behind Haworth West End. Paul Ellison (Oxenhope) made an impact on Oaks with 58 runs and 5 for 28, arguably the best individual performance against us for over 50 years. Wilf broke the 1948 Cyril Pegg record (462) for most runs in a season with 469 runs at an average over 26 and Barry Sayer gave great support with 295. Bowling heir apparent Dennis Bottomley with 49 wickets finished runner up in the bowling averages table

1 st	WBL2	D Bottomley	22	12	0	3	7	Promoted
2 nd	WBL4	R Atkinson	22	12	0	2	8	2 nd of 12

Farewells Jeff Hobson, Richard Harris

1975 - Five fifties Debut David Brunskill

A year of settlement in the First Division and Barry Sayer set a club record of five half-centuries in one season on his way to another club record 521 runs. Wilf chipped in 396 to begin to again help lay the old ghost of brittle Oakworth batting. Bottomley led the bowlers with 18 years-old Jeff Inman and regular David Greenwood giving admirable backing. Together they excelled away from Wide Lane, picking up a near perfect 107 wickets in the 11 matches. It seemed that the gap caused by Harris and Hobson's departures was pretty quickly being plugged. Once again my records aren't totally complete due to another Printer's strike from May to July, although Morton Banks Danny McGowan (105) did become the first opponent to reach a 3-figure score against us at Wide Lane. Our 49-run loss to Long Lee was the first at their hands for 14 years. Long Lee's double effectively handed the title to Haworth Meths after a season long battle with Oaks.

Two further Life Memberships were given during the 1975-76 winter to Norman Feather and free scoring former player Arthur Lockwood.

1 st	WBL1	D Greenwood	22	9	0	8	5	5 th of 12
2 nd	WBL3	R Atkinson	22	10	0	1	11	4 th of 12

Farewell Arthur Brookes

1976 - All round junior Debuts Jeff Moor, Frank Morley



Dennis Bottomley

The 1976 season at long last saw the abandonment of timed cricket when the West Bradford League fell in line with all other leagues and adopted overs based cricket.

Phil Taylor (with the ball) and Colin Greenwood (with bat and ball) along with former Keighley and Silsden batsman Frank Morley brought a solid look to the 1976 line up and former Steeton and Haworth Meths bowler Jeff Moor showed great promise with prodigious swing. Bottomley with 60 wickets and Scarborough with 449 runs spearheaded the team and a third place behind Ingrow and Harden was justifiable reward for another year of spectacular improvement. David Brunskill another marvellous junior from the Oakworth conveyor belt totalled 417 runs in only 11 junior innings, including a first ever 100, to take the League batting prize by a mile. His average

was an astonishing 69.50. David added 30 wickets to underline his terrific potential. Oaks exited the Charity Cup, courtesy of a great all-round performance by C Hardy of Ingrow who scored 68 no and took 4 Oaks scalps for 33. It was the day after the League match between the two sides when K Hey also performed the double with 51 runs and 5 for 29.

Life Membership for Jack Scarborough, now 65, was awarded in March 1977 in recognition of many years devotion to the club as player, committeeman and Chairman for the last five years.

1 st	WBL1	D Greenwood	22	11	0	7	4	3 rd of 12
2 nd	WBL3	R Atkinson	22	6	0	4	12	11th of 12

1977 - Cup winners & individual scoring record Debuts *John Mason, Tim Brunskill*

The contraction of the West Bradford League continued into Jubilee year 1977 even though the arguments about overs cricket had been settled with the adoption of a 45 overs format. The second game of the season belonged to Jeff Moor with a superb 8 for 4 to bowl out Morton Banks for only 18. Another eight-wicket match (for 37) against Morton on July 16th confirmed his arrival on the Oakworth stage. Sandwiched in between these two great bowling performances D Hirst (108 no) of Eldwick & Gilstead lasted long enough to become only the fourth centurion against Oaks. A club still awaiting silverware, unseen since 1915 eagerly awaited Moor's performance the following day, in the club's third Charity Cup Final.

Our opposition came from Ingrow who won the toss and decided to ask us to bat. Openers Colin Greenwood and Barry Sayer put on 117 runs for the first wicket before Greenwood was out for 51 at 6.30pm. The match had been affected by several interruptions for rain and Barry was fourth out for a magnificent 88 at 7.15 pm. A late flurry of 31 in 27 minutes by Jeff Inman helped Oakworth through the two-hundred barrier. None of the Ingrow bowlers including a youthful Hollingsworth really got to grips with the wet wicket with Hey and Roberts bearing the brunt of the Oakworth onslaught. A final total of 213 for 8 was always going to be very difficult to beat. Jeff Moor and Dennis Bottomley contained the Ingrow batsmen beautifully with Moor having only 19 runs off his first 10 overs. Ingrow were all out the following day for 97 with Moor finishing with 7 for 38 in 20.1 overs. Bottomley had 2 for 38 and Colin Greenwood 1 for 16. A note of interest was that all the Ingrow batsmen were out caught!



And so after 62 years the First XI had some more silverware to show for their efforts and the Keighley Charity Cup went back to pride of place in the Oakworth clubhouse. This time I'm fairly certain that it was not filled with Lemonade!!!! The first Oakworth Cup-winning team was as above Edwin Greenwood (Chairman), John Mason, Phil Taylor, Colin Greenwood Jeff Moor, Barry Sayer, Mark Rowbotham, Dennis Bottomley, Tim Brunskill (scorer), Jack Scarborough (President), Jeff Inman, David Greenwood, Wilf Scarborough (Capt), David Brunskill and Colin Ward (12th Man)

Three weeks later Captain Wilf Scarborough, disappointed at his score of 11 in the Cup Final, celebrated his way by shattering the club's record high individual score (Cyril Pegg's 129 in 1956) in a new team high score of 254 for 8. Sixteen huge sixes and twelve cracking fours (only 12 not in boundaries) made up a titanic 156 in only 100 minutes against one of Wilf's favourite chopping blocks Long Lee. A further 3 weeks on he

chalked up yet another ton, 103 against Cup final opponents Ingrow. When the season's statistics were added up Wilf had set a Club and League record total of 704 runs at an average of 44. He now had a League Batting prize to add to his 1968 'keepers award. Not to be outdone Barry Sayer picked up five league fifties again to add to his patient 88 in the Cup final. He reached 579 runs to also shatter the club record that he himself had set two years earlier. Jeff Moor's second season with the club brought him 68 wickets, only one tantalizing wicket short of that 1904/1924 record.

A year of wonderful individual performances without doubt, some silverware on the sideboard but the Championship surprisingly again eluded the still improving team.

1 st	WBL1	W Scarborough	22	11	0	5	6	5 th of 12
2 nd	WBL3	E Smith	22	10	0	3	9	

Farewells Colin Greenwood, Eddie Smith

1978 - Last in the West

The widespread discontent with the administration of the West Bradford League had reached epidemic proportions and several clubs hedged their bets in case of a league collapse. Oakworth along with many others submitted an application to join the Craven & District League for 1979. There was much coverage of the debate in the local press but the Oakworth minutes record only the decision to apply on 3rd April 1978. With the Sword of Damocles hanging over the League's future, Oakworth started the 1978 summer poorly, losing the first three matches. More brilliant bowling from Jeff Moor soon got the side back into winning ways and by mid July their record stood at 9 wins, 2 draws and 4 defeats. His 8 for 11 against Eldwick produced another ten-wicket margin for Oaks.

The team defended the hard won Cup tremendously well and again reached the Final where they would meet Harden. P Foster and A Moulds added a second wicket stand of 157 after losing the first wicket with the score on 12. Foster with 92 and Moulds with 71 not out flayed the Oakworth bowlers with Jeff Inman conceding 76 off his 14 overs of spin. Jeff Moor, last year's hero, went for 85 from his 23 and Phil Taylor 26 from his 8. A Harden total of 195 for 2 looked formidable as Oakworth took the field at 4.50 pm. Wilf joined Barry with the score at 21 for 2 and took the score along to 62 before he fell for 25. Barry ground on and with the score having moved on to 90 for 5. He was joined by Taylor, with whom he added another 62. Unfortunately Barry was run out for a patient 70 (4 fours) and at 152-6 the game was evenly balanced. Disastrously David Brunskill and Mark Rowbotham were both also run out cheaply and whilst Jeff Moor tried to assist Taylor in getting the strike, Taylor was out for a fighting 36. The Oakworth innings closed at 166 and the Cup went over the hill to Harden by 29 runs.



The loss of the Cup didn't affect League form and three more wins put Oakworth in the top three. The revenge match at Harden on 12th August didn't prove glorious as the Cup Winners again triumphed, this time by 4 wickets. Oakworth nevertheless won their remaining matches. Massive contributions from Moor (61 wickets), Scarborough (569 runs) and Barry Sayer (400 runs) had really established Oakworth as one of the leading sides in the Keighley area.

The club's application to join the Craven & District League was accepted along with those of Haworth Meths, Haworth West End, Long Lee and Gargrave. So the last match of the season against Ingrow on 2nd September proved to be Oakworth's last ever in the West Bradford League after 47 years membership. The loss of these clubs and others to the Bradford Central League and the Dales Council League brought the West Bradford League to its demise after 85 years. The 1978 season had ironically offered hope for the future prosperity of the league as the committee decided to create an Under 14 fixture list to supplement the Under 17 Junior League. In addition the League Committee determined to keep the Charity Cup alive.

1 st	WBL1	W Scarborough	22	14	1	2	5	3 rd of 12
2 nd	WBL3	E Smith	24	12	0	1	11	6 th of 13

Farewells Cyril Pegg, Dennis Bottomley, Phil Taylor

1979 – First time promotion Debuts Peter Gallagher, Peter Salter, Kevin Hird

Meanwhile Oakworth headed for the Second Division of the Craven & District League after 812 matches in the now defunct West Bradford League. It was to be a return to the current club's original home, which they

had left in 1905. The new Craven & District League era for Oakworth dawned in tandem with the Thatcher regime at Parliament but economic difficulties the country would face seemed a million miles away as the membership began to turn their attention to the club's facilities. During the summer of the 1978 season the officials had reached agreement with the Duke of Devonshire to purchase the ground. Many fund raising activities were undertaken and with grants from Bradford Council and The Sports Council the deeds were obtained for £3600. The campaign to establish the club as the foremost in the area was well and truly underway. The old wooden 1952 clubhouse just had to go and plans for a new permanent brick structure were drawn up and submitted for formal planning approval.

The squad then comprised Wilf with Jeff Inman as his vice captain, Barry Sayer who had also taken over the Secretary's role from long serving Frank Woodward during 1978, John Mason, Malcolm Wilson, David Greenwood, Peter Gallagher, Jeff Moor, Peter Salter, David Brunskill, Kevin Hird and brothers Alan and Mark Rowbotham. Cyril Pegg remained as Treasurer as he had been since 1965 and Frank Woodward assumed control of the juniors.

Fears of a catastrophic beginning as on entry to the West Bradford League in 1912 and in 1932 were quickly dispelled with 3 wins on the trot in this Oakworth's 78th summer of league cricket. Moor, Inman and Wilson shone with the ball and Barry Sayer again passed 500 runs for the season (541). Only 4 matches were lost including a debacle at home to Carleton when the team was dismissed for a derisory 39 in response to a 60 score. In the return Carleton's A Brooksbank served up a marvellous one-man show with 54 and 4 for 54 but Oaks had the winning edge that time. The 99 run victory over rivals Haworth Methodists in the last match of the season was celebrated in style as promotion to Division One was gained at the first time of asking. However no-one realized that it was also the 100th League Match between the two clubs.

The Division title was settled in August at Cure Hill when Oaks chased Skipton BR's 145 score. With 3 overs left our last pair Peter Gallagher & Alan Rowbotham was at the wicket. Peter took 15 off Riseley's over but a disastrous run out for Alan, our 3rd of the match, left us 3 runs short with 8 balls remaining.

Barry's runs landed the Division Two batting Prize (average 49.18, a club high) and Jeff Moor rewrote one record with the collection of eight 5-wicket hauls to surpass the 7 of Hey and Harris. Malcolm Wilson gave occasional support most noticeably with a superb 8 for 19 against Skipton CI. Wilf Scarborough whilst not among the Prizewinners wasn't going to be left out and he scored his fifth League century against Long Lee in late August. December added to the cheer, as the Council approved the plans for the new clubhouse and the Eighties were becoming a more exciting prospect than Oakworth could have hoped.

1 st	CDL2	W Scarborough	18	12	0	2	4	Promoted
2 nd	CDL4	E Smith	12	11	0	1	6	Promoted

1980 - Tough at the top *Debut Ray Senior*

Former Morton Banks skipper Ray Senior was added to the 1980 squad and another Banker and school days pal of Wilf's Tom Shields joined him. Despite this strengthening it became evident that the team was going to struggle in the strong First Division and the worst fears were realized with relegation after disappointingly finishing next to bottom of the 12 teams.

Jeff Moor took 54 wickets and Malcolm Wilson occasionally produced the goods but both batting and bowling departments needed bite. Champions Cononley showed what was required by following up a 198 score with a demolition job on our batsmen, who were all out for 34 (Jeff Hayes 7 for 16). It was our worst defeat for 48 years when chasing an opposition total. Only the May victory over Upper Wharfedale reflected the 1979 form. Our score of 230 for 5 included for the first time ever three half-centuries. Barry Sayer and Jeff Inman with 51 and Ray Senior with 50 helped crush the dalesmen by 93 runs. Jeff Moor did though make his mark in Oakworth's first appearance in the Wynn Cup. He took 8 for 44 but still saw us lose to Cowling by 42 runs!

1 st	CDL1	W Scarborough	22	4	0	6	12	Relegated
2 nd	CDL3	E Smith	22	5	0	4	13	Relegated

Farewell Brian Wilson

1981 - 15 consecutive wins *Debuts Dave Hardman, Nigel Lockley, Neil Creighton*

In February of 1981 the committee unanimously voted Life membership for Frank Woodward and Cyril Pegg in recognition of their extensive past services for 25 consecutive years, in Frank's case as Secretary (1953 to 1977), a terrific record by anyone's standards. Cyril had recently stood down as Treasurer after 16 years and was regarded as arguably the finest all-round cricketer the club had yet produced. He made his debut in 1937 and had the captaincy in 1952 and 1966. His proud record is detailed elsewhere in this book.

Additional bite required was hopefully to come from former Keighley player David Hardman and ex Knowle Park star batter Neil Creighton. The first match of the 1981 Second Division programme was drawn due to snow; the second at home to Foulridge, was lost by 5 wickets and the third was lost to rain. Thereafter not another point was dropped and 15 consecutive wins carried the First XI to the Second Division Championship. The 50th home League contest with the 'Meths' was won by a massive 91 runs on Yorkshire day (August 1st).



Oakworth Cricket Club
Craven & District League Division Two Champions 1981

This time Wilf Scarborough did take the batting honours with an average of 76.40 (a club record) from his 382 runs in 12 innings. Barry Sayer for a change gleaned the really big scores with his first century (103) against J Nelsons and a 2nd for good measure against Haworth West End (100). Jeff Moor again led the bowling with a record equalling eight 5 wicket matches and 67 wickets and as hoped he was well backed by Hardman with 47 who finished as runner up in the League lists. Jeff it was who on his own destroyed the Keighley Tech batsmen with an unplayable stint of bowling which brought him 8 wickets for only 2 runs and the Tech side all out for a total of 8! Peter Gallagher knocked them off with three boundaries in 4 balls, our shortest ever innings!

1 st	CDL2	W Scarborough	18	15	0	2	1	Promoted
2 nd	CDL4	B Wilson	20	13	0	4	3	Promoted

Farewell John Mason

1982 - Wynn Cup final

The club's second tilt at the First Division commenced on 17th April 1982 and this time there was to be no yo-yo back to the lower division. Wilf, Barry and Peter Salter cracked plenty of runs and Jeff Moor finally obliterated the 78 years old record of most wickets with a new best of 73 for the season. The previous record had withstood many assaults over the years by Prince Stobbs, Richard Harris and by Moor himself. Jeff's best return this campaign was a stunning 8 for 30 in the win at Glusburn but the Airedale team must have been sick at the sight of him for he twice took seven against them. By contrast Oaks were probably sick of the sight of Thornton-in-Craven's Brian Laycock who stunned Oaks with 71 and 5 for 35 in July.



The Craven & District League's Wynn Cup took the eye also this season and after wins against Skipton CI, Airedale and Wharfedale the First XI reached the final on 15th August. The first round demolition of Skipton CI by 145 runs was primarily achieved by Wilf Scarborough's new club record high individual score of 164 not out. In true Scarborough style he pulverized the Second Division opposition with an incredible sixteen sixes and twelve fours. Oakworth's opposition in the final came from ultimate Champions Cononley at whom Jeff Moor plugged away all afternoon finishing with figures of 4 for 59. But Roger Nelson and J Hayes with 61 and 30 carried their total to 154 for 7. Oakworth never looked to be in the hunt as Hayes (4 for 40) and Iveson (4 for 61) tore through our batting. At 52 for 8 we were out for the count although Jeff Moor must have given the Cononley lads collywobbles as he and David Brunskill took the score onto 98. Once David was out for a sterling 15 the cause was lost and Oakworth finished 102 all out. So Oakworth ended with nothing save the satisfaction of establishing themselves as a force in the highly competitive First Division.

1 st	CDL1	R Senior	22	11	0	2	9	5 th of 12
2 nd	CDL3	B Wilson	22	5	0	1	16	

Farewells David Greenwood, Geoff Pickles

1983 - Nine for Jeff *Debuts Malcolm Binns, Richard Atkinson*

Four consecutive wash outs did little for the points tally in 1983. Peter Salter stroked 120 runs against J Nelsons in our total of 212 for 6 to add his name to the other illustrious six centurions. Wilf Scarborough strode on and with 14 fours and 5 sixes hammered Upper Wharfedale for his sixth league century. The Oakworth score of 210 for 6 looked pretty good but the dalesmen passed it with 5 wickets to spare and thus contributed to a new club record high aggregate of 421 runs. The following week Jeff Moor cemented his place in the club's elite bowling ranks with only the fifth 9 wickets match in our history. He dismissed 9 Pendle Forest batsmen for 57 runs to sit alongside Norman Whitaker, John Preston and Harry Barber in that particular hall of fame.

1 st	CDL1	D Hardman	22	8	0	7	7	5 th of 12
2 nd	CDL3	D Greenwood	22	6	0	7	9	

1984 - Cup winners and comeback kings *Debut Dave Parker*

With stability seemingly assured could the club progress even further? At the end of the season a new scoreboard and tackle store was commenced on the Cure Hill side of the ground and the new clubhouse was to be officially opened in August of 1984. David Hardman retained the captaincy to hopefully continue to build on the pleasing 1982 season under Ray Senior. August 1984 was indeed going to be a memorable month for more than just the opening of the new pavilion, momentous, as that would be. More devastating bowling from Jeff Moor had carried the team again to the Charity Cup Final, last won in 1977, set for the 19th August. The official clubhouse opening went ahead and despite the rain preventing the completion of the 5-a-side it was a great day raising over £500 for the strained club funds. The day before the Cup Final game Oakworth were scheduled to meet League Champions and Cup winners Cononley at home in a league match. The events of that weekend are now part of Craven & District League folklore.

Cononley openers Roger Nelson and John Toothill set a new league opening partnership record of 286 with both of them remaining as unbeaten centurions. Nelson made 109 and Toothill a magnificent 166. They took full toll of all our bowlers and Jeff Moor had the unbelievable figures of 0 for 89 off only 12 overs! Dave Hardman fared little better with 0 for 74 off 13 and neither did Richard Atkinson with 0 for 59 off 10. Three overs of spin from Jeff Inman produced 25 more runs. What a christening for the new pavilion! How many of the Oakworth lads really relished the thought of chasing such a vast total, easily the highest ever conceded by an Oakworth XI. With openers Ray Senior and Jeff Inman back in the new pavilion with only 15 runs on the board the writing was on the wall. Enter one Wilf Scarborough. With Dave Parker he added 103 runs. Parker was out 1 short of his half century but Wilf's eye was well and truly in. Despite losing Tim Brunskill and Malc Binns, Wilf went on his murderous way, cracking 13 sixes and 14 fours and he eventually went for a glorious match winning 168, only 15 short of the all time league record. He was sixth out with the scoreboard showing an amazing 261 runs and Peter Salter and Barry Sayer had the relatively easy task of knocking off the few runs needed for victory, which they did with 10 balls to spare. Follow that! Oakworth had to - they were in the Cup Final the following day!

The Oxenhope captain put Oakworth into bat and surviving 1977 Cup medallists Barry Sayer and Jeff Inman chalked up 52 before they were parted. Something of a mini collapse followed and at 68 for 4 a large total did not seem likely as the previous day's hero Wilf Scarborough had gone for only 1 run. Parker, Brunskill and Moor helped the score along to an attainable 146. Captain Dave Hardman once again excelled on the Lawkholme Lane ground he once regularly graced. He picked up six Oxenhope wickets for 53 off 19 overs to break the back of their innings. They finished on 124, 22 runs short of the Oakworth total and our lads brought home the Cup for the second time in eight years.



Our Cup-winners were John Mason, Malcolm Binns, Jeff Moor, Jeff Inman, Peter Salter, Barry Sayer, Wilf Scarborough, Ray Senior, Neil Creighton, Dave Hardman (Capt), Tim Brunskill and Richard Atkinson. 14 years-old Michael Scarborough was the scorer.

For the Firsts the weekend was complete, and the team's magnificent form pointed towards a possible League and Cup double. The Craven & District League rulebook spells out measures by which Champions are decided and the trophy went to Thornton by virtue of their 15 wins to Oakworth's 14 and 2 draws. So near and yet so far! When the dust had settled the statistics showed both Scarborough and Sayer had each over 500 runs and Jeff Moor 64 wickets and Hardman 35. Without doubt a truly remarkable season for the Cure Hill club.

1 st	CDL1	D Hardman	22	14	0	2	6	2 nd of 12
2 nd	CDL3	B Wilson	24	6	1	2	15	Last of 13

1985 - Second XI Champions Debut *Stevie Johnson*

Club President Noel Johns bowed out on a real high note and he was added to Oakworth's list of Life Members. Noel was succeeded by local businessman Garry Kirby. Seven wins out of the first eight, losing only to Barrowford, put Oakworth firmly back on the 1985 title trail with Hardman, Moor and Inman picking up plenty of wickets. The batting however was very subdued in comparison with previous seasons and Wilf Scarborough, now aged 42, totalled for him a modest 300 runs whilst Barry Sayer only just scraped 200. The last match of the season brought a little cheer before the winter with a first ever 100 run League victory over the Meths. Inman grabbed third place in the league bowling averages with Hardman just behind in fourth. No one made the batting list. The hard-won Cup was also lost in June by 60 runs to old antagonists Harden and the feeling of anti-climax was inescapable.

The Second XI however had no such anti-climax in fact the reverse was the case. In 1984 they had finished 13th and last in the Third Division but this year under the aggressive leadership of David Brunskill they lifted the Trophy. Neil Creighton led the way with 430 runs (av 43.00) and Richard Atkinson set a new Oakworth Second XI bowling record with 77 wickets at only 6.81 apiece. They both deservedly took the League Prizes for the Third Division. Tom Shields 316 runs (2nd in averages) and Malcolm Wilson's 59 wickets in addition to Richard's 77 were also telling factors. Tom Shields unbeaten 65 was a new record 71.4% of the 91 for 3 winning total against the 'Meths' 2nds.

The Junior XI also gained honours picking up the Cup at Lawkholme. Robert Jeffrey, a slightly built left arm bowler and attacking batsman took 6 wickets and heaved 86 runs to lay out his claims to a first team place.

1 st	CDL1	D Hardman	22	14	0	2	6	3 rd of 12
2 nd	CDL3	D Brunskill	22	15	0	3	4	Champions

Farewell Dave Parker

1986 – Binnie’s award *Debuts* Mick Beckett, Mick Howard, Mark Hagyard, Rob Jeffrey

Former League Prize winner Steve Johnson had joined Oakworth from Airedale during the 1985 season and in 1986 with 3 half centuries plus four in the Cups he led the Oakworth batting brigade in 3rd spot in the league lists with 340 runs. The playing strength had been further bolstered by the addition of former Keighley and Knowle Park player Mick Beckett and club junior bowler Mick Howard. But another new recruit (in 1983) Malcolm Binns went even better to snatch the league bowling Prize with an average of 8.00 for his 30 wickets. The club again finished second but a clear seven points behind Champions again Cowling.

The club reached the Keighley Cup Final for the fourth time in ten years but finished beaten finalists to bogey team Harden. Harden batted first and posted a score of 193 for 8 thanks to Mark Falkingham who contributed 71. Malcolm Binns was the pick of our bowlers with 3 for 40. A late flurry of 58 runs in 6 overs boosted the Harden total significantly. Steve Johnson and Barry Sayer added 40 for the Oakworth first wicket but thereafter wickets began to tumble with some regularity. At 62 for 6 the chances of a win seemed slim and despite a valiant first half century for Jeff Moor and help from Mick Beckett (27) and last man Captain Dave Hardman, that was indeed the outcome. Our final total was 142 for 9, respectable but not enough. Harden took the Cup for the second time against Oakworth owing much to young Falkingham and bowler Foster who took six Oakworth wickets for only 33 runs.

1 st	CDL1	D Hardman	22	11	0	4	7	2 nd of 12
2 nd	CDL3	D Brunskill	22	10	0	4	8	

Farewells Ray Senior, Peter Salter, Mark Rowbotham

1987 - Young winners

The 1987 year was not as productive as the last three but a fourth place finish with 10 wins to 7 defeats was a fair return under Captain Jeff Moor. It certainly reflected the arrival on the scene of young Mick Howard who underlined his enormous potential and he claimed a season’s best of 8 for 33 against Cononley. Bradley’s Duncan Mannville also showed similar promise with 8 for 22, the best bowling to date by a CDL opponent. Mick Howard (6 for 10) had a major hand in destroying Jimmy Nelsons for only 28 in our first Wynn Cup victory by the highest margin of 10 wickets. There was though a disappointing exit from the Wynn Cup in the semi-final against champions yet again Cowling, leaving the club trophy-less. Moor’s form dipped but was partially compensated for by the wickets of Mark Hagyard and Howard, but Johnson’s and indeed everyone else’s batting declined somewhat.

The Under 14s took their chance well in their Cup Final against Oxenhope. The youngsters had lost only one match all season, to unbeaten Oxenhope. Surprisingly Oxenhope opted to bat first and paid the penalty. Their 100 looked pretty good but Darren Shields, Simon Lockley and John Spurr made it comfortably to capture the beautiful Rose Bowl for the first time. The lads enjoyed several Cups-full (not lemonade) at the clubhouse after a Senior Cup Match.

1 st	CDL1	J Moor	22	10	0	5	7	4 th of 12
2 nd	CDL3	D Brunskill	22	6	0	6	10	

Farewell Stevie Johnson

1988 - Mick's Yorkshire success *Debut* Steve Hartley

A particularly wet summer in 1988 plunged the team towards the relegation zone but the drop was avoided. Hagyard, Binns and Howard collected a few wickets and former Keighley batsmen Frank Morley and Mick Beckett accumulated runs. The season was memorable for one magnificent run spree in June with an excellent aggregate in the home match with Long Lee. Oakworth rattled up an impressive 226 for 8 with half-centuries for Beckett and Adrian Hargreaves but the Long Lee lads passed the total with three wickets to spare.

This year saw the Craven League's centenary and Mick Howard was selected to represent our club in the League side against Yorkshire at Gargrave. He didn't let us down and he took the scalps of Blakey, Love, Robinson and Bairstow in a superb stint of 4 for 31 in his 8 overs. He kept out a humdinger of a hat-trick ball from England pace-man Paul Jarvis but was bowled next ball as the County side exerted their superiority. Jarvis had terrific figures of 6 for 7.

1 st	CDL1	M Beckett	22	6	0	7	9	8 th of 12
2 nd	CDL3	R Senior	22	10	0	7	5	

1989 - Lancastrian rain Debut Michael Scarborough

A wonderful return to form by Barry Sayer (407 runs) was compounded by heavy scoring from Hartley, Morley and young Scarborough. Michael claimed his first double (50 & 5 for 37) in a Cup demolition of Glusburn and, lifted the club's fortunes in a 1989 season when really fine weather combined with Neil Creighton's brilliant wicket preparation to produce high scores in many matches. Michael Scarborough's pacy bowling along with steady returns from Hagyard and Howard playing the counter role brought the team to second place in the table one point behind promoted Pendle Forest by mid August. The much awaited title decider was greeted by a damp Saturday and not surprisingly the Red Rose men were reluctant to take the field. The time delays waiting for the pitch to dry meant a time controlled match had to be completed by 8.00 pm. Pendle occupied the crease for the full 45 overs and made 185 for 5. A gallant run chase by our openers was doomed to failure with nowhere near enough time and we finished on 98 for none with Frank Morley 52 not out. So Pendle remained one point ahead and despite Oakworth winning their last three matches, they maintained that tenuous lead as the Lancastrians also won their remaining 3 fixtures. It was another Craven League second placing to add to those of 1984 and 1986 despite passing the 3,000 runs mark for the first time.

Haworth Meths' Jim Bailey saw us off from the Wynn Cup with a match winning 65 out of 96 (66.33%) in Round 2 after Glusburn had been overcome despite former Oakworthian Phil Taylor's 69 no and 5 for 70 for the South Craven side.

1 st	CDL1	M Beckett	22	15	0	3	4	2 nd of 12
2 nd	CDL3	R Senior	22	14	0	2	6	3 rd of 12

Farewells Malcolm Binns, Mark Hagyard

1990 - Run feast Debut Lee Hollingsworth

In 1990 all batsmen made runs on Oakworth's officially rated best wicket. Former Ingrow opener Lee Hollingsworth joined Oakworth and chipped in 494 runs and Steve Hartley's polished style brought him 487. Michael Scarborough really began to blossom and his 300 runs added to the solidity of the batting line up. Inexplicably that line up failed on two occasions when emphatic victories were expected, at Airedale and Gargrave with scores below a hundred on suspect pitches. The first match promised much as Michael Scarborough became the first Oakworth player since 1962 to perform the double in a league match adding 58 runs to his earlier 5 for 26 against the Sutton club. In June he demonstrated his tremendous batting power hammering the Keighley Tech attack for his first ton, 105 not out in the Keighley Cup. One week later "mad" Jack Anderson reached three figures (119) for the first time in his career at the ripe old age of 46. Two weeks further on back-in-harness David Brunskill notched his hundred with a classic 113 not out as he shared in a monstrous new opening record stand of 215 with Tony Dimuantes (95) against Cononley IIs. Still the runs continued to flow and in August Steve Hartley stroked a chanceless 113 not out in a revenge trouncing of Airedale. It was the 50th time Oakworth had prevailed by at least 100 runs. Finally 15 year old John Spurr playing for the Seconds in the last match of the season made 124 not out against Long Lee to eclipse all our "youngest" records. His tremendous effort deservedly brought him a special prize from the League. But the season's overall star was the younger Scarborough. In addition to his early season double and his Cup ton, he dominated the club's bowling to pick up second place in the league averages with 63 wickets to take a second successive special league prize, the Freddie Trueman Ball. His name was added to the list of Oakworth "greats" when he took 9-35 in another revenge-win this time over Gargrave.

Perhaps it was lack of real support for Michael in the bowling department that meant the league championship was again narrowly missed. Mick Howard had a tremendously unlucky time of it only really coming good in the last match of the season. Without doubt though those two matches lost which should

have been won easily effectively handed the title again to Pendle Forest. It was nevertheless a satisfying year for many of the players especially the batsmen as five centuries were backed up by a further three scores in the nineties including an exhilarating 93 in 53 minutes by Steve Powell.

The Division Three batting averages were hijacked by Oakworth players, with Tom Shields (first) taking pride of place with 43.14. Jack Anderson was second with 38.73 and Tony Dimuantas third with 38.00. John Spurr and David Brunskill also made the list. This wonderful season produced no less than five new record (Craven League) stands for the club.

The match against Cowling brought the loudest cheer at the Annual Club Dinner as it was announced that 48 years old Wilf Scarborough's contribution of 62 not out, had been voted by the players as their performance of the year. There was life in the old dog yet!

1 st	CDL1	J Inman	22	12	0	3	7	3 rd of 12
2 nd	CDL3	R Senior	22	14	1	2	5	3 rd of 12

Farewells Dave Hardman, Jeff Moor

1991 - A level playing field *Debuts Joe Gordon, John Spurr*

After 98 years of playing league cricket on the sloping ground at Oakworth, the 1991 season was set to commence with a levelled surface. After almost five years of trying to find a suitable supplier of infill (at no cost of course); and on the verge of abandoning the idea; Chairman Wilf came up with the goods and wagons of rubble and soil from the new Keighley School site started to roll in during November 1990. The Newsholme side of the ground resembled something of a moonscape and as lady luck would have it the two previous very dry winters were followed by the wettest for years. During late March progress was made but it was clear that final re-turfing (at great expense) whilst complete would not be fit for First Division play in time. The Craven & District League approved reversal of the first three Home First XI fixtures with the Second XI playing at home on a shortened boundary.

The 1990-91 winter also sadly saw the retirement of Jeff Moor, surely one of the club's finest bowlers. After 15 seasons with Oakworth, at the age of 45, Jeff decided to give the Craven & District League batsmen a rest. Jeff's long time friend and bowling partner Dave Hardman decided also that it was time for him to hang up the boots, and 1990 Second XI captain Ray Senior lived up to his promise to also call it a day. In effect Moor's replacement was former Oakworth junior Nigel Lockley who opted to return from Ingrow after an absence of 6 years. Jeff would be a hard act to follow. The batting department was strengthened by acquisition of Joe Gordon, the former Keighley, Riddlesden and Airedale high-scorer.

Early season optimism soon dissolved with a comprehensive drubbing at Thornton after the batsmen failed to get enough runs. The bright spots were continued excellent bowling form of Michael Scarborough, Nigel Lockley and back from University Robert Jeffrey. Michael in fact had a tremendous month of May, twice again achieving the 50 run and 5 wicket double. 92 runs and 5 for 62 from him helped the side overcome Championship rivals Long Lee, and 56 and 6 for 72 repeated the dose against Embsay. Young John Spurr forced his way into the First XI to add further competition for first team places. Somewhat inconsistent league form was not however repeated in the Wynn Cup and with victories over Sutton, Pendle Forest and Upper Wharfedale, the club's second final was reached, where they would play Embsay on 18th August. Barry Sayer's form picked up and he achieved his third ton against Bradley to add further to the selection committee's work.

The Wynn Cup had never found it's way to the Oakworth sideboard and the club's only real close call was in 1983 when the lads lost to Cononley. Duncan Bullough the Embsay captain led his side with 62 runs and despite some tight bowling a total of 170 looked to be on the cards. A last over blast by Embsay's Hillary bumped up the score to a more daunting 186 for 7 although Grassington was renowned for 200 plus scores. Consistent nagging away by the Embsay bowlers was rewarded by the steady fall of Oakworth wickets. Only when opener Lee Hollingsworth and youngsters Robert Jeffrey, Nigel Lockley and last man Mick Howard were at the crease did Oakworth look like making a serious assault on the Embsay total. We eventually finished 53 runs short on 133 all out. The Embsay bowlers weren't particularly fierce but the difference between the two teams was clearly the standard of fielding and we were left to ponder the relative average ages of the two sides. So another runners-up trophy came our way but fate now began to take a strange hand in our fortunes in the league.

At this point in the season Oakworth had lost five matches and seemed to be again out of the reckoning with Cowling, Thornton and Embsay ahead. All the leaders started to drop points and with two matches to go we faced the possibility of at least a share of the Championship with either Cowling or Long Lee. These two teams had to replay a match abandoned earlier in the season due to the unfortunate death on the pitch of Cowling captain Tom Whittaker. Long Lee overhauled a high Cowling score to set up their chance of the share. Oakworth went back to the scene of their Cup Final humiliation to try to wrest the two points from Upper Wharfedale who were struggling to avoid relegation. Our score of 211 for 5 (M Scarborough 64 & N Lockley 51) seemed a pretty secure platform from which to take the points. Alas the dalesmen, not for the first time, saw us off with 3 overs and 3 wickets and our chance had gone. Long Lee drew their last match (rain) to become Keighley's first Craven & District League Champions by one point.

Michael Scarborough had set new records for the number of fifties in a season (7) and the most runs in a Craven League season (587), but all to no avail. The last match against Cononley ironically had to be another of those hard luck stories that have dogged the team over the last 10 years. A monumental new record team high score of 310 for 7, thanks to a stunning Nigel Lockley 151 knock, only produced a draw as the rain intervened with Cononley teetering on 95 for 5. Indeed the latter half of the season had seen several other fine performances, firstly Richard Atkinson reached three figures for the Second XI v Bradley and then Frank Morley blazed a superb Second XI record of 152 not out versus Upper Wharfedale. All these wonderful batting performances combined to a club record 3,594 runs for the season.

A fifth place finish to add to the Cup Final defeat yet again seemed scant reward for another excellent season. Wilf Scarborough for so long the mainstay of the batting department decided it was time to move over for some-one younger after batting for most of the year at number ten or eleven for an aggregate of 124 runs. His son Michael, who had a prodigious season with 60 wickets and 587 runs, finally plumped to try his luck in the Bradford League with Keighley, a decision instrumental in Wilf's reasoning to retire in favour of watching Michael's progress in the higher league. So Oakworth entered their Centenary season without a Scarborough in the playing ranks for the first time in nearly fifty years.

1 st	CDL1	J Inman	22	11	1	4	6	5 th of 12
2 nd	CDL3	T Shields	22	12	0	3	7	

1992 - Centenary and unbeaten Seconds *Debut Michael Davison*

The club decided to submit an application for our junior teams to join the Upper Airedale League. This had arisen following disappointments with fixture arrangements as it seemed that the West Bradford Junior League was in terminal decline. The application was accepted and the junior players could look forward to playing at different grounds in 1992.

Joe Gordon was elected captain for the Centenary season with Lee Hollingsworth as vice captain. Tom Shields again lead the Second XI with help from Mick Beckett. The Centenary would be celebrated with a fixture against a Yorkshire XI led by Neil Hartley, in his benefit year, on Friday evening 12th June 1992. The committee worked hard at another extension to the pavilion with addition of a new kitchen/committee room during the winter of 1991-1992. This bright new facility was not however matched on the opening day as all matches resulted as draws due to poor weather. As many expected Wilf couldn't entirely make the break from playing when two players withdrew from the Second XI fixture at Upper Wharfedale. Yes and his contribution? Only his first ever century for the Seconds! It was however in vain and a torrential downpour left the scores level and Oakworth feeling robbed of two points. Terrific victories over perennial Division Three favourites, Embsay IIs (by a stunning 95 runs) and rivals Cowling (by 6 wkts) took the Second XI three points clear at the half way point of the season. With Sayer, Morley and Gallagher finding themselves in the Second Team, the First XI didn't make headlines. A couple of Cup wins didn't galvanize the Firsts despite a gigantic 288-8 total vs Jimmy Nelsons. The latter half of the season had fallen away with poor weather not helping. But the Second XI kept up the pressure and remained unbeaten through the season to claim the Third Division title by 2 points from Embsay.

The only Oakworth player in either team to score a century in the Centenary season was irrepressible Wilf Scarborough in that tie with Wharfedale, seven years after his last for the First XI! Thornton's A Shanks wrote a little history for Seconds opponents by producing the only century to be scored off our attack in a Keighley Cup match. His 118 no and the Bradford sides' win enabled concentration on the Third Division Championship.

The Second XI weren't the only winners during Centenary year as the Under 17 XI won their section in their inaugural season in the Upper Airedale Junior League. They overcame Bradley in a Play-off at Sutton with a convincing 67 run victory. Man of the Match was 16 years old Paul Taylor who smashed 55 runs and then took 3 wickets. Paul had an incredible season, totalling 650 runs to take the League Batting Prize with an average of 59.09. They set a new league record high score of 280 for none against Keighley Tech. Taylor inflicted damage with 159 and John Spurr made 106. The Junior XI reached the William Spencer Cup Final in September against Steeton but their spin bowlers engineered a collapse and proved too good for our batters.

Two trophies in our Centenary season was great for Oakworth Cricket Club. But these achievements were sadly overshadowed by the tragic loss of the club's hard working President Garry H Kirby only 3 days after he unselfishly helped, whilst very ill, with the arrangements at the Centenary match with Neil Hartley's Yorkshire XI. Garry, a personal friend and neighbour, was one of those typical people who would do anything for anybody and his part in the creation of the superb Oakworth facilities since 1985 cannot be overstated. A tireless worker for the club, cruelly taken from us whilst still a young man, Garry will be sorely missed by all connected with the club. Garry was able, despite illness, to witness a tremendous evening's cricket on the 12th June. From his usual seat by the gate he marvelled at the fluency of stroke play from South African Hans Cronje, later to star in the World Cup, Benefit man Hartley and Yorkshire star Bradley Parker. Like all who gazed in awe at Oxenhope lass and England Ladies Captain Helen Plimmer's batting ability (as well as her skirt!) Garry enjoyed himself to the full on a night of great entertainment. Who will forget the 6 over the wall by Helen off Jeff Inman's spin? No one will let Jeff that's for sure. The wily former Yorkshire Second XI Captain Hartley tried to engineer a tie but namesake Steve spoiled that ploy, hitting the winning runs for Oakworth. A huge crowd witnessed the game and Neil's Benefit Fund and the Oakworth bank balance benefited enormously.

1 st	CDL1	J Gordon	22	7	1	7	7	7 th of 12
2 nd	CDL3	T Shields	22	16	1	5	0	Champions

Farewell Wilf Scarborough